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**Request for  
Continued Examination (RCE)  
Transmittal**

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|                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Application Number   | 10/576,588           |
| Filing Date          | April 21, 2006       |
| First Named Inventor | Kunio GOBARA         |
| Art Unit             | 2442                 |
| Examiner Name        | Jeffrey L. Nickerson |
| Attorney Docket No.  | MAT-8844US           |

**This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.**

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

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|                   |   |                                   |                |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Signature         |  | Date                              | April 14, 2011 |
| Name (Print/Type) | Lawrence E. Ashery  | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 34,515         |

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

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|-------------------|----------------------|------|----------------|
| Signature         | <i>Fran Petrillo</i> |      |                |
| Name (Print/Type) | Fran Petrillo        | Date | April 14, 2011 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. This information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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